

undertaken and settled a long-term and previously intractable issue. Its settlement was an achievement unparalleled in California and U.S. water history.

As recently as 2003, Joe was chairman of two coordination committees to oversee the concrete lining of the Coachella Canal and All-American Canal in southern California to reduce seepage which will conserve thousands of acre feet of water annually. The projects are key components of an agreement reached on the allocation of Colorado River water among competing entities in the state and helped resolve issues among states who are parties to the Colorado River Compact.

Joe's Iowa farm experience served him when he applied his engineering expertise to develop cultivation techniques in the cultivation of his walnut farm near Hanford, California. His agriculture leadership was recognized as he was the first recipient of the Merriam Improved Irrigation Award and induction into the University of Iowa's College of Engineering's Distinguished Engineering Alumni Academy. Joe's local contributions include serving on the Hanford Community Foundation.

Joe was an inspiration and mentor to young people interested in hard work, achievement and having an impact on their chosen professions. His friendship and expertise are greatly missed.

#### THE 11TH ANNUAL WORLD CONGRESS ON CIVIC EDUCATION

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 11th World Congress on Civic Education, which will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 17–21. The conference, hosted by Conciencia Argentina and the U.S.-based Center for Civic Education, will welcome delegates from over 60 countries, including leaders of civic education organizations throughout the world. Participants will discuss best practices for imparting the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for democratic citizenship to students living in established and emerging democracies.

Through a national and international network of individuals, organizations, educational institutions, and governmental agencies, Civitas International Programs have responded for more than a decade to the wave of democratization sweeping through Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Civitas International Programs are directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act. They are implemented by the U.S. State Department and USAID, in cooperation with nongovernmental and governmental institutions in the United States and abroad.

The goals of the Civitas International Programs are to:

Acquaint international educators with exemplary curricular and teacher training programs in civic education developed in the United States and other participating nations.

Assist international educators in creating, adapting, implementing, and institutionalizing

effective civic education programs in their own countries.

Create and implement civic education programs for students in the United States that will help them better understand the history and experiences of both established and emerging democracies.

Facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences in civic education among educational, governmental, and private sector leaders in the United States and other countries.

Encourage independent research and evaluation that will determine the effectiveness of civic education in providing students with the knowledge and character traits essential to the preservation and future progress of democracy.

I applaud the outstanding achievements of the Civitas International Programs, and wish the delegates to the 11th World Congress on Civic Education much success in their continued efforts throughout the world in developing a political culture supportive of democratic values, principles, and institutions.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 3, 2007, I requested and received a leave of absence from May 3 to May 9, 2007, due to my presence at previous commitments in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 315, the Tom Davis of Virginia Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 316, the Thompson of Mississippi Amendment, "aye"; Rollcall No. 317, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no"; Rollcall No. 318, on Passage, Homeland Security Authorization Act, "aye".

Madam Speaker, I was also unavoidably absent from the chamber from March 21, 2007 to March 22, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 167, Motion to Permit to Proceed in Order on This Day, "aye"; Rollcall No. 168, the Neugebauer of Texas Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 169, the Price of Georgia Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 170, the Al Green of Texas Amendment, as Modified, "aye"; Rollcall No. 171, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no"; Rollcall No. 172, on Passage, Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act, "aye"; Rollcall No. 173, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 835, "aye"; Rollcall No. 174, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 327, "aye"; Rollcall No. 175, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 797, "aye"; Rollcall No. 176, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1284, "aye"; Rollcall No. 177, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1130, "aye"; Rollcall No. 178, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 740, "aye"; Rollcall No. 179, on Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 260, "aye"; Rollcall No. 180, on Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye"; Rollcall No. 181, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, H. Con. Res. 66, "aye"; Rollcall No. 182, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 261, "aye"; Rollcall No. 183, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, "aye";

Rollcall No. 184, on Approving the Journal, "aye".

#### CONGRATULATING PAM SCHMIDT

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, dedicated and passionate teachers are vital to the education and development of our future generations. Today, I am honored to recognize Ms. Pam Schmidt, an eighth grade science teacher, in Aurora, Colorado. Ms. Schmidt is a recipient of the 2007 Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence for her exceptional efforts and commitment to provide her students with an outstanding science curriculum.

Ms. Schmidt, the 1997 Colorado Teacher of the Year, seeks to inspire her students to explore the world around them by providing hands-on experiences such as collecting fossils in the Badlands of Wyoming or caring for one of the 47 classroom snakes. Through her efforts and example, Ms. Schmidt has helped foster a love of science and provided a better learning environment for her students.

The Award for Science Teaching Excellence is given by Amgen, an internationally known biotechnology company with branches in Colorado. The Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence is given to teachers in public and private schools whose dedication to imparting a love of learning and interest in science to the future generations. The recipients are selected by an independent panel that judges the applicants on effectiveness and creativity of teaching methods and how they plan to use the grant money to further science education in their schools.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD MORGAN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Morgan for his service of 10 years as founding Dean of the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Dean Richard Morgan has overseen the development of the Boyd School of Law. His vision and commitment to academic excellence, as well as his talents as an academic administrator allowed the Boyd School of Law to receive full American Bar Association accreditation in five years, a truly incredible accomplishment.

Prior to becoming Dean of the Boyd School of Law, Morgan contributed to the legal profession in a number of different forums. From 1972 through 1980, Morgan served as an Associate, and later Partner, at the law firm of Krueger & Marsh in Los Angeles, California. In 1980, Morgan dedicated himself to the study of law and became an Associate Professor of Law at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. In 1983, Morgan was named Associate Dean of Arizona State University, a position